ROBEN, HENRY DRAWER 19A Artists-R

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Artists of Abraham Lincoln portraits

Henry Roben

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

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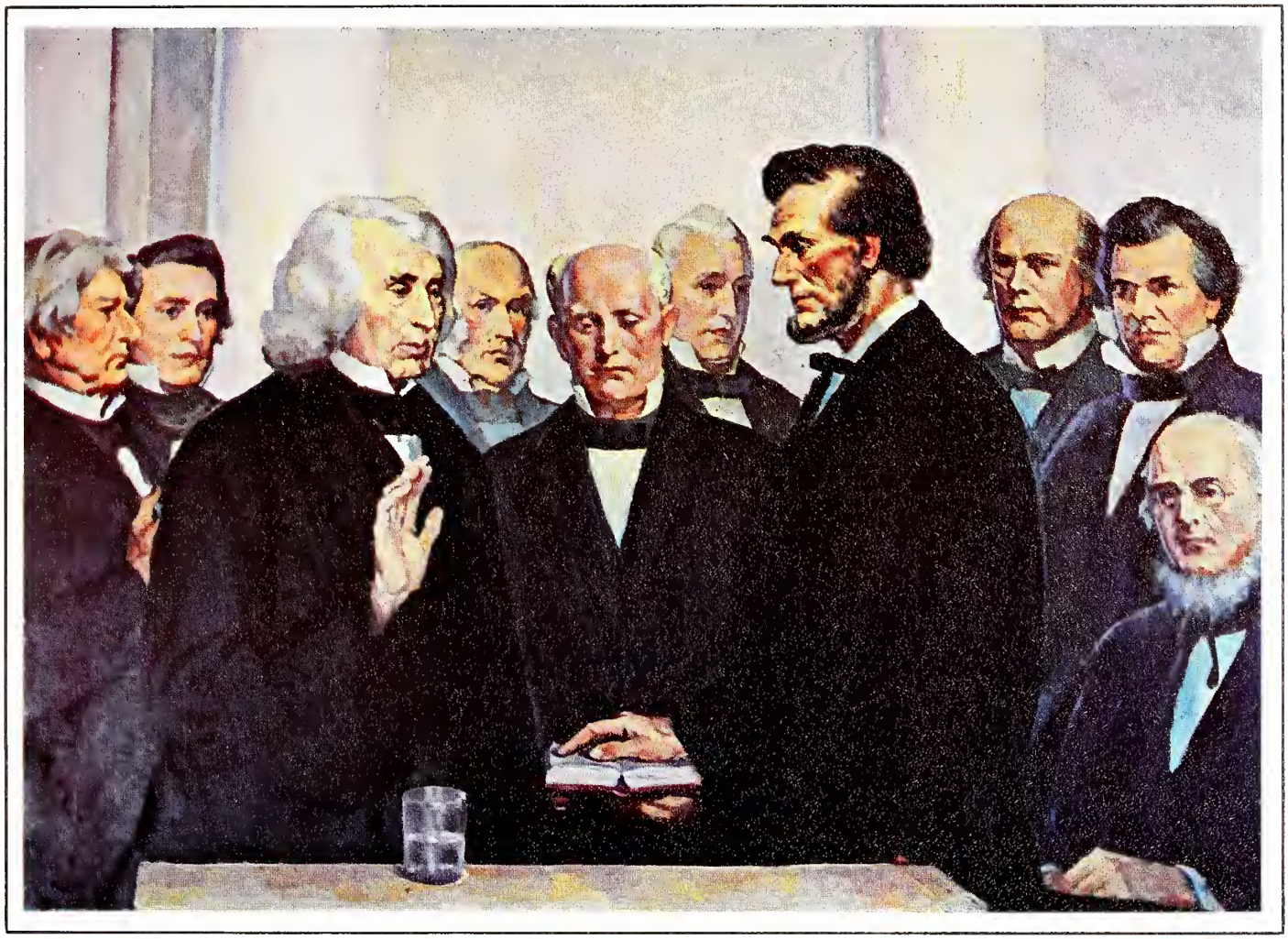
Winter 1966



VALLEYS of HISTORY

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VALLEYS of HISTORY

VOL. 2 WINTER, 1966 NO. 1

Donald L. Whipp, Editor

Stuart L. Mullendore, Art Editor

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COVER

Henry Roben oil painting of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney swearing in Lincoln as President of the United States. Taney administered the oath of office to six other Presidents. Painting is in the Taney home in Frederick, Md., and was photographed through the courtesy of the Frederick County Historical Society.

Shown in the picture from left are William H. Seward, Secretary of State; John C. Breckinridge, retiring Vice President; Taney; Edward D. Baker, who introduced Lincoln to the inaugural crowd; William T. Carroll, clerk of the U. S. Supreme Court (holding the bible); James Buchanan, retiring President; Lincoln; Salmon P. Chase, Secretary of the Treasury; Stephen A. Douglas, one of Lincoln's opponents for the Presidency; and Horace Greeley. Picture on page one is from the author's collection.

Potomac Edison

Part of the Allegheny Power System

Published quarterly to preserve the history and culture of the Potomac and Shenandoah Valleys—the cradle of this nation when it was young and the area that helped guide its development—by the AREA DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, POTOMAC EDISON COMPANY, 55 E. Washington St., Hagerstown, Md., 21740. An investor-owned, tax paying electric utility company. Subscription $1 annually.

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Painting Of Taney Giving Oath To Lincoln To Hang In Home Here

Property On South Bentz Street Will Be Opened As National Shrine Next Month.

Redolent with historical associations of national importance of over a century ago, the restored residence in this city of Chief Justice Roger Brooke Taney, of the Dred Scott case fame, will be opened early in April as a national shrine. The residence, little changed since it passed from the hands of Taney in 1823 has of recent years been the residence of a negro family It was purchased from E. B. Measell by the Roger Brooke Taney Home, Inc., of which Gov. Albert C. Ritchie, was one of the incorporators.

The home, on South Bentz street, is little more than a city block from the residence of Barbara Fritchie on West Patrick street.

As Taney married the sister of Francis Scott Key, author of "The Star Spangled Banner, a portion of the home will be set aside as a memorial to the Key family. One of the rooms will contain collections of manuscripts, portraits and heirlooms of the author of the national anthem.

Other exhibits will include the collection of portraits of Chief Justice Taney and the presidential collection, consisting of portraits and autographs of the Presidents of the United States of whom there were seven or eight, ending with Lincoln, sworn into office by Taney.

The Taney portrait, which is being painted by Henry Roben, Baltimore will be one of the outstanding exhibits of the home. It will have as its setting the administering of the oath of office to Abraham Lincoln, in 1861 with the figures of Lincoln, Taney, and William Thomas Carroll, then chief clerk of the U. S. Supreme Court, life size.

There has been much speculation among historians as to the manner in which Lincoln took oath of office. One group maintains that Lincoln's right hand was raised, the left resting on the Bible held by the clerk, the accepted custom of latter day Presidents. Other historians refer to Lincoln as having placed his right hand on the Bible, the left being in a position at his side. The portrait is being painted in the latter position.

Many Other Figures.

The painting will include men prominent in official and diplomatic life of Civil War days. Among them will be James Buchanan, retiring President; Hannibal Hamlin, Vice-President of the United States, Senator Edward D. Baker, Oregon, who introduced Lincoln to the crowd at the first inauguration; John C. Breckenridge, retiring vice-president; Salmon P. Chase, William H Seward, and Stephen A. Douglas, who although the opponent of Lincoln for the presidency, attended the inaugural The figures of only Lincoln, Taney and Carroll will be life size, others forming a background.

The Taney residence is one of the finest examples of small colonial homes in this city. Separate from the main dwelling are the slave quarters, with dutch oven attached, used as the family kitchen. Beneath the kitchen is the wine cellar. The entire property has been repaired and renovated and will be ready for visitors by the official opening date.

Portraits in the Library of Congress, which have been studied by the artist, will serve as models for the painting

The personnel of the honorary advisory board for the home of Taney was made public this week. Gov Ritchie who served as an incorporator of the chief justice's house, has accepted appointment as honorary chairman of the board. Other incorporators were: State Senator A. LeRoy McCardell, Edward S. Delaplaine and Hammond Clary, this city.

Advisory Members.

Advisory board members include:

Governor Albert C. Ritchie, honorary chairman; Edward S. Delaplaine, chairman; Hammond Clary, secretary; Dr. Matthew Page Andrews, Baltimore, author of "The History of Maryland"; Gordon M. Ash, member of national council, Institute of American Geneolgy: Mrs. L. Victor Baughman, Mrs. Arthur B. Bibbins, Baltimore, historian, Star-Spangled Banner Flag House Association: Mrs. John S. Derr, H. Dorsey Etchison, president, Taney Monument Association; Miss Eleanor Murdoch Johnson, Mrs. Francis H Markell, state historian, Maryland Daughters of the American Revolution: State Senator A. LeRoy McCardell, W Clinton McSherry; Frank C. Norwood president of the Historical Society of Frederick county; William Tyler Page, clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives, and author of "The American's Creed"; Chief Judge Hammond Urner and Secretary of State David C. Winebrenner, 3rd.

ROBEN, HENRY

DRAWER 19A

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